GENNDY TARTAKOVSKY

STEPHEN DeSTEFANO • BILL WRAY

CAGE!

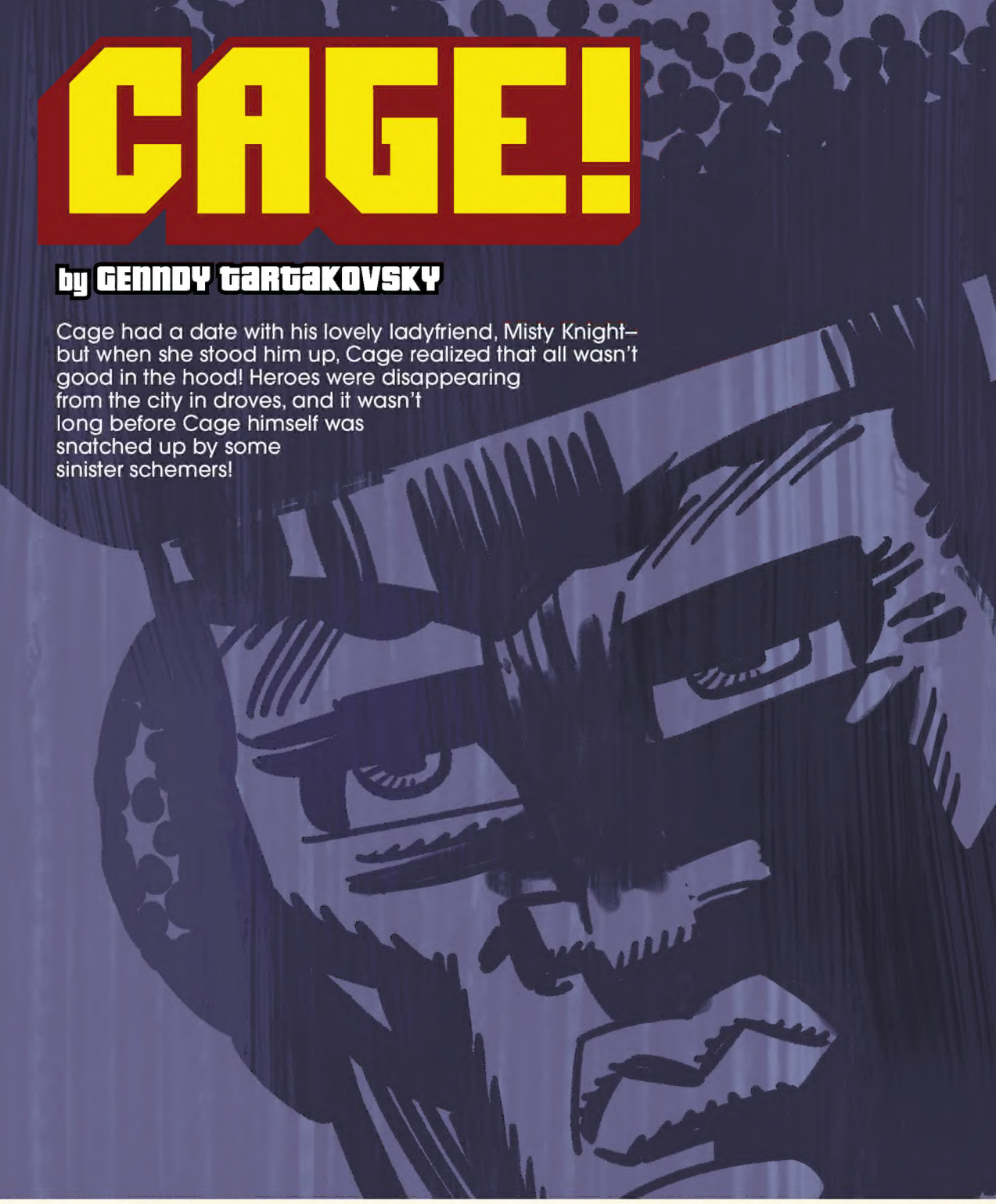
MARVEL

#2

CAGE!

by GENNDY TARTAKOVSKY

Cage had a date with his lovely ladyfriend, Misty Knight– but when she stood him up, Cage realized that all wasn't good in the hood! Heroes were disappearing from the city in droves, and it wasn't long before Cage himself was snatched up by some sinister schemers!



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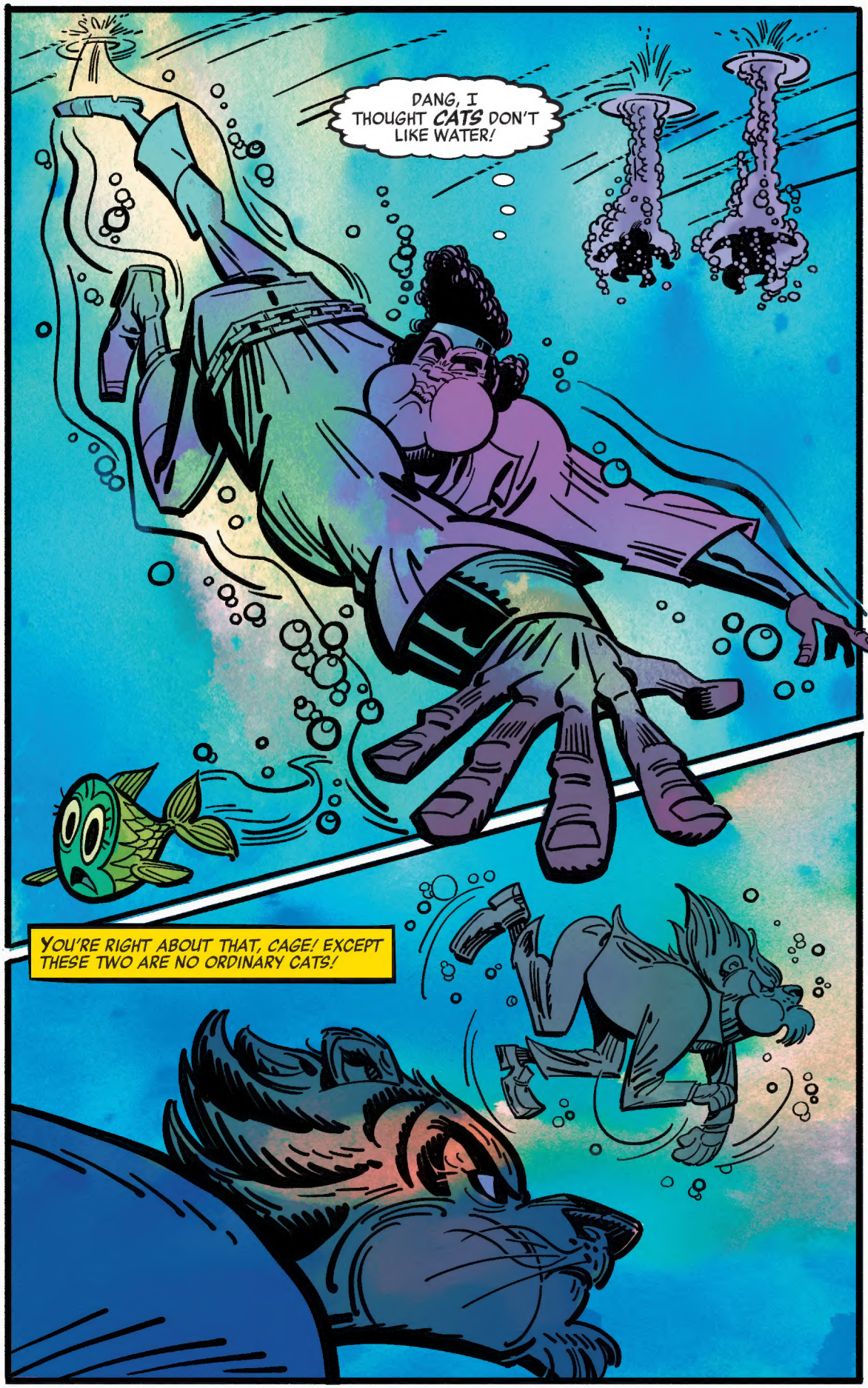
SLEEP, CAGE...
SLEEP...
FOR SOON YOUR DREAMS WILL BECOME YOUR LIVING NIGHTMARE!
WHAT KINDA FREAKIN' TRUCK HIT ME BACK THERE?
AW, HELL NO!
THEY DID NOT JUST BOX ME UP! MAN, THAT IS JUST DISRESPECTFUL.
DON'T THEY KNOW?

NO BOX MADE OF WOOD CAN CONSTRAIN 300 POUNDS OF NEW YORK MUSCLE!

NOBODY CAGES CAGE!!

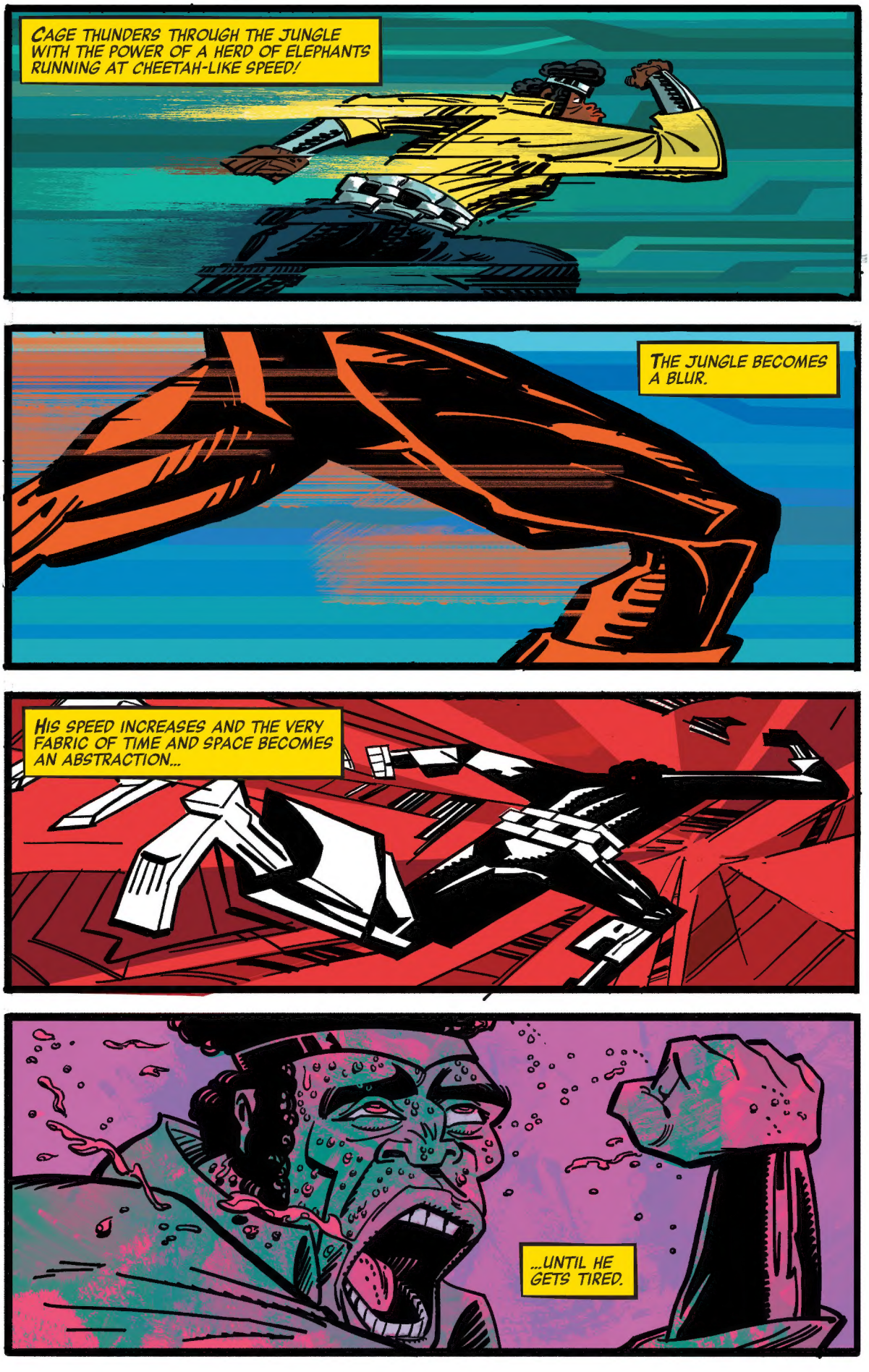
SWEET CHRISTMAS!!!
THEY'RE REAL CATS!!


DANG, I THOUGHT CATS DON'T LIKE WATER!
YOU'RE RIGHT ABOUT THAT, CAGE! EXCEPT THESE TWO ARE NO ORDINARY CATS!

I AIN'T ONE FOR RUNNING... BUT MAN, THOSE DUDES FREAK ME OUT!
FOR A MAN WHO HAS ONLY KNOWN THE STREETS OF NEW YORK AS HOME...
...THIS MUST BE LIKE AN ALIEN WORLD.
'CAUSE IT SURE ISN'T THE CONCRETE JUNGLE!!
GRRRRRR!

MAN, WHAT I WOULDN'T DO FOR A GOOD OL' CAB RIGHT ABOUT NOW.
AAAAAGH!
FOOL!! YOU CAN'T BITE THROUGH STEEL-HARD SKIN!!
POW

RUN, CAGE...
RUN!
RUN LIKE YOUR LIFE DEPENDS ON IT.
'CAUSE IT DOES!!


CAGE THUNDERS THROUGH THE JUNGLE WITH THE POWER OF A HERD OF ELEPHANTS RUNNING AT CHEETAH-LIKE SPEED!
THE JUNGLE BECOMES A BLUR.
HIS SPEED INCREASES AND THE VERY FABRIC OF TIME AND SPACE BECOMES AN ABSTRACTION...
...UNTIL HE GETS TIRED.

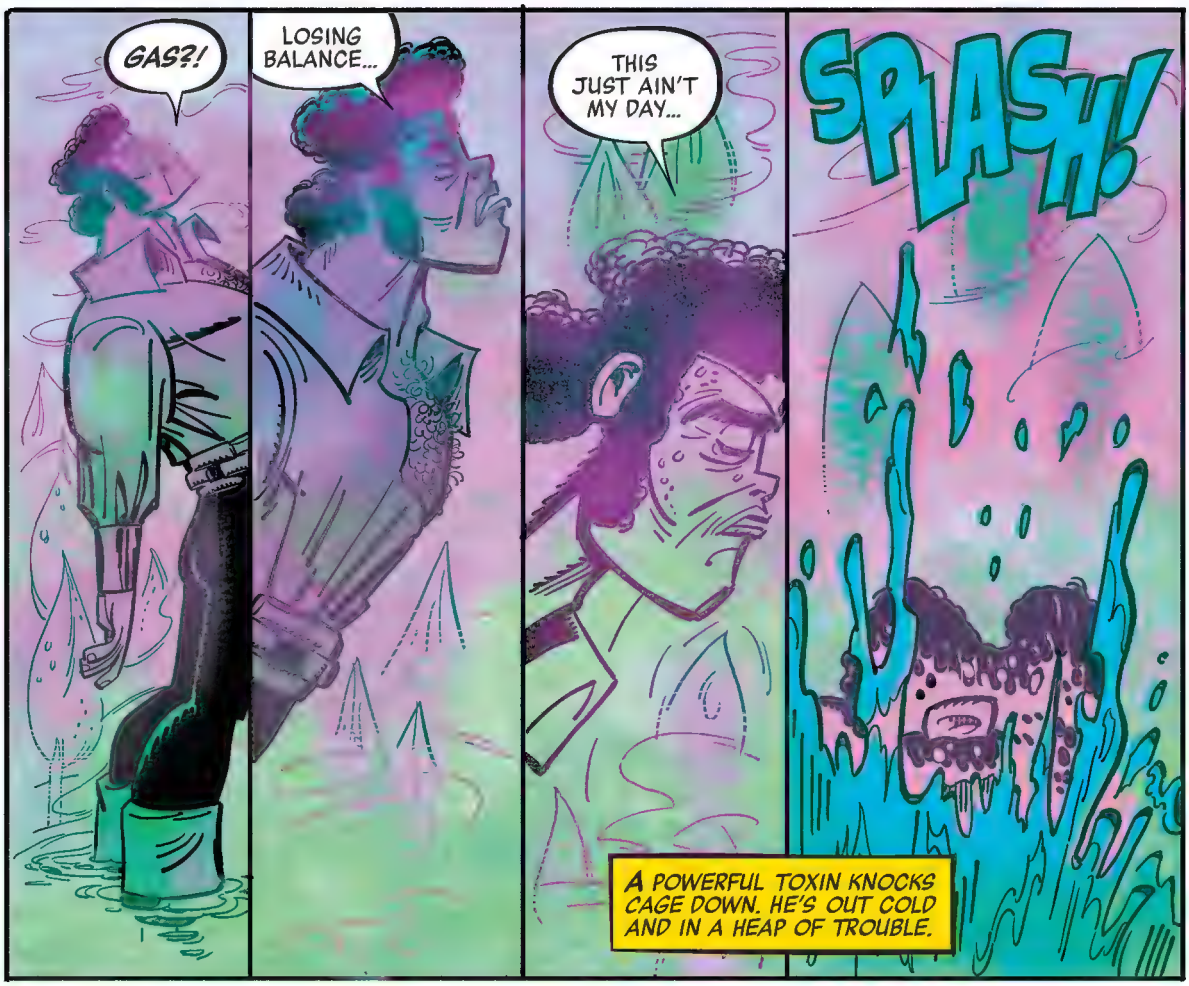
=PANT/=
MAN, I AIN'T USED TO ALL THIS RUNNING!!
=PANT/=

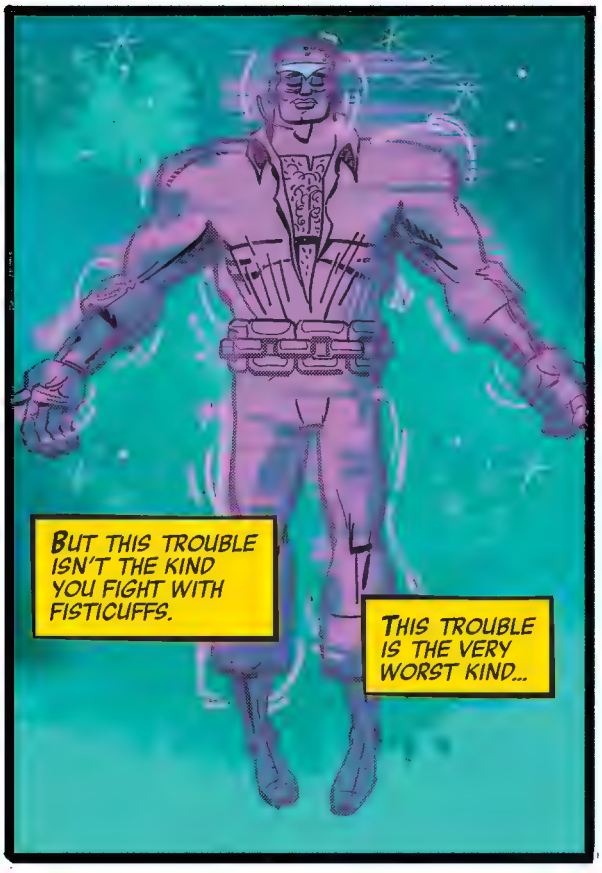
GOTTA CATCH MY BREATH...GET A CHANCE TO THINK...

SNIFF SNIFF

HEH...I THINK I LOST THEM...
CRUNCH
AW, HELL!
BOLT!

CAGE RUNS INTO A SEEMINGLY BEAUTIFUL CLEARING...
DANG. WHERE DID ALL THESE FLOWERS COME FROM?
SOMETHING AIN'T RIGHT.
=SNIFF=...
=SNIFF=...
SSSSSSS


GAS?!
LOSING BALANCE...
THIS JUST AIN'T MY DAY...
SPLASH!
A POWERFUL TOXIN KNOCKS CAGE DOWN. HE'S OUT COLD AND IN A HEAP OF TROUBLE.


BUT THIS TROUBLE ISN'T THE KIND YOU FIGHT WITH FISTICUFFS.
THIS TROUBLE IS THE VERY WORST KIND...

...'CAUSE IT MESSES WITH YOUR MIND.

REBIRTH

CAGE
OHMAN!

I'M SCARED.
I'M STUPID.
I CAN'T FEEL A THING.
CAGE, IT'S ME...TRY TO FOCUS. TRY TO FOLLOW MY VOICE.
WHO'S THAT? ARE YOU GONNA HURT US?
I'M STUPID.
I'M NOT SURE HOW I FEEL ABOUT THAT.

MISTY...
YES, IT'S ME, CAGE. THE FLOWER'S POLLEN HAS A POWERFUL HALLUCINOGEN.
COOL! GLAD TO HEAR IT. 'CAUSE THAT SHOULD PROBABLY EXPLAIN THIS!
OUR FINAL GUEST HAS COME ON STAGE, SO LET US SAY...

WELCOME, CAGE!!!
AAAAAA
CAN THIS CREEPY DUDE BE REAL OR IS CAGE STILL TRIPPING? STAY TUNED, BROTHERS AND SISTERS, 'CAUSE THINGS ARE GONNA GET EVEN CRAZIER!!!

NEXT:

*This cover has nothing to do with what's inside